

Claims

1. A thick slab for covering a ground surface, characterized in that it comprises at least a surface layer made of facing concrete, at least two sections (2, 3) separated by a deep groove (5) ending in a point to define a breaking line (7) allowing the slab to be divided along this breaking line to separate the two sections (2, 3) and obtain two slabs.

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2. The slab as claimed in the previous claim, characterized in that the thickness of the slab is greater than or equal to 35 millimeters and wherein the groove is between 6 and 10 millimeters deep.

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3. The slab as claimed in one of the previous claims, characterized in that it comprises a square or rectangular overall shape, the length of whose sides is between 40 and 100 centimeters approximately, and which comprises between 2 and 4 dividable sections.

4. The slab as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that it is overall square in shape with sides approximately 50 centimeters in length and comprises sections whose sides are between 20 and 50 centimeters in length.

5. A mold (20) for manufacturing a slab as claimed in one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that it comprises several sections (22, 23, 24), whose surfaces feature textures reproducing the texture of natural paving stones, the sections being separated by a high, pointed rib (25).

35 6. Process for manufacturing a slab as claimed in one of claims 1 to 4, comprising the following steps:

a) placing of a mold as claimed in claim 5 in an automatic machine;

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b) filling of the mold with concrete, the bottom of the mold at least being filled with facing concrete;

5 c) pressing of the slab and immediate demolding.

7. The process for manufacturing a slab as claimed in claim 6, wherein step b) comprises the following
10 steps:

- filling of the mold with a first layer of facing concrete to a depth slightly greater than the height of the mold ribs;

15 - filling of the remaining volume of the mold with ordinary concrete.

8. A process for laying slabs, which includes the step of straightforward slab division, as claimed in one of claims 1 to 4.

20 9. The process for laying slabs as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that dividing is simply performed by striking the slab on the projecting edge of a hard surface or by striking the slab with a club
25 hammer and a wide chisel.

10. The process for laying slabs as claimed in either of claims 8 and 9, characterized in that a joint comprising polymer filler or cement mortar is
30 introduced between the slab divided sections.

11. The process for laying slabs as claimed in one of claims 8 to 10, characterized in that it uses an assortment of slabs overall square with sides
35 approximately 50 centimeters in length and comprising:

- a first approximately 50 x 30 centimeter sized section, a second approximately 30 x 20 centimeter

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sized section and a third approximately 20 x 20 centimeter sized section; and/or

5 - a first approximately 50 x 20 centimeter sized section, a second approximately 30 x 30 centimeter sized section and a third approximately 30 x 20 centimeter sized section.